

Nomination for Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade

June 15, 1993

The President announced today that he intends to nominate Jeff Garten to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

"As we seek to expand free and fair trade with all of our partners around the world, I am very pleased to be naming Jeff Garten to this important post," said the President. "His combination of hands-on business experience, sterling academic credentials, and previous Government service in three administrations amply equips him to tackle the challenges that lie ahead."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Nomination for Ambassador to Italy

June 15, 1993

The President today announced his intention to nominate Reginald Bartholomew, a senior Foreign Service officer with the rank of Career Minister, to the post of Ambassador to Italy.

"Reg Bartholomew has served our country ably in several ambassadorial positions and many other challenging assignments," said the President. "I have full confidence in his ability to maintain our strong relationship with Italy, an important ally whose friendship America highly values."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Sam Nujoma of Namibia

June 16, 1993

Economic Program

Q. Mr. President, there are indications that the Senate Finance Committee may not hit your \$500 billion target. They may fall short because of this problem on the gasoline tax. Would you accept less than \$500 billion, which is one of your main principles?

President Clinton. Well, let's see what they do. I think the—and I think ultimately the conference report will—I think the bill that the Congress ultimately votes on will hit the \$500 billion.

Q. If they come out under \$500 billion—usually in conference they cut things in half—it would mean that you would get less than \$500 billion out of the final product.

President Clinton. I'm not—let's see what they do.

Space Station and Super Collider

Q. Are you going to have a space station decision today—super collider?

President Clinton. There is a deadline sometime in the next 3 days. I don't know exactly when it is, but there's a congressional deadline, and we're working on a statement right now.

Democracy in Namibia

Q. Do you think Namibia can be a model for South Africa, Mr. President?

President Clinton. I absolutely do. I think it's a model for all of Africa. The reason I asked President Nujoma to come here and be the first African leader at the White House is because of the remarkable success that he and his country have made in promoting democracy and market economies, and they've done it in a multiethnic society with great complications. But they've managed to do it. And I think they're a real shining example for emerging democracies in Africa and on other continents as well. I'm very excited to have him here today.

Somalia

Q. President Nujoma, are you concerned about the American role in Somalia, Mr. President?

President Nujoma. We are grateful. In fact, I have come to express our gratitude to President Clinton, although the original initial send-up of U.S. troops to Somalia was under the Bush administration—Americans—American President who did that—and when he won in the elections, continued supporting the U.N. action in Somalia, while we were sitting there, while thousands of